



# SESSION 5

## MINI-EVENTS

MISSION:  
**DEEP SEA**

Here are some ideas on what to do if you decide to have an extra day of VBS! Rather than the usually programming, here are some fun ways to close out Mission: DEEP SEA with a splash! Literally!

### EVENT | Water Wars

- This can be run as a family event for parents to join their kids or as a fifth day option for kids to come back for a final day of VBS. Set up outside and have groups rotate through a series of water-related games and events that relate to the theme of Mission: DEEP SEA. You can select from, or do all of, these activities!
- **Bubbles Everywhere:** Set up swimming pools filled with bubble solution, various size bubble wands and even hula hoops for kids to create their own bubbles.
- **Water Tables:** Set up various water tables like [this](#) with funnels, watering cans, and other water accessories or create your own water tables by filling shallow tubs of water for kids to play in.
- **Water Gun Run:** Blow up beach balls and fill trash cans with water. Set up lanes using stakes and ribbon. Each kid participating in the Water Gun Run will be given a [water blaster](#). Players will use their water blaster, but not any part of their body, to push their beach ball down the lane to the end. First player to get their beach ball to the finish line wins.
- **Cup to Cup:** Put one full bucket of water in the grass and have one player sit right behind the bucket. Have the rest of the team sit in a straight line right behind the first player. Have the last person in the line turn and face the other way so the last two players are back to back instead of one after another. Put another smaller bucket in front of the last player. Give the first player an empty cup. They must dip the cup in the full bucket of water and pass it backwards over their head to the next kid. The second kid must then pass it over to the third and so on until the final kid on the team dumps the water in the cup into the empty bucket. Then pass the empty cup of water back up to the front. The first team to fill their bucket wins.
- **Sponge Run:** Place a bucket full of water (or a [kiddie pool](#)) on one side of the playing area and place an empty bucket on the other. Give a sponge to each player and have them stand by the full bucket or kiddie pool. Players must dunk the sponge in the water trying to soak up as much water as possible. They then have to put the sponge on their head and hold it there while they run to the empty bucket, hoping to keep as much water as possible in the sponge. Wring out the sponge into the empty bucket and run back, continuing until someone reaches the mark on the empty bucket. First person to fill up their bucket to the marked line wins.

- **Water Balloon Toss:** Have everyone pick a partner and tell them to stand in two straight lines, partner facing partner. Give each team a water balloon (or a sponge if you're playing with young kids). Everyone must toss their water balloon to their partner. If they catch the water balloon or they drop the water balloon but it does not break, one person on the team takes a step back (make sure everyone stays in line). If they drop the water balloon and it pops or it pops while they're trying to catch it, they're out. Continue tossing water balloons and taking step backs all at the same time until there is only one team remaining. Remaining team wins.
- **Water Balloon Hot Potato:** Fill water balloons and have everyone sit in a circle in the yard. Give one person in the circle a water balloon. Players must pass the water balloon around the circle while everyone in the circle recites the memory verse from the week. When the verse is complete, whoever has the balloon must pop the balloon above their head and is out. If there's confusion about who "has" the water balloon when the verse is complete, play rock paper scissors to make a decision.
- **Giant Slip-'n-Slide:** Get 100 feet of heavy-duty plastic sheeting, something that is between 10 and 12 feet wide. Spread the plastic sheet out on a grassy lawn. It would be best if you place the slide on a hill—even if it is a small one. The slight incline will help boost your speed. Smooth out any wrinkles or ripples with your hands. Fold the plastic sheeting in half. It should now be around 5 or 6 feet wide. This will help make it even more durable and slide-like. Anchor the sides of the sheeting with [landscape anchor pins](#). You will need a pin in each corner of the slide. You will also need to add more pins down the long side edges, about 5 to 10 feet apart. Use a hammer to drive the pins into the grass. You want them to be flush against the ground to prevent injury. Add some liquid soap down the center of the slide. Spray the slide with water. Grab a hose and turn it on. Spray water over the entire side.

### EVENT | Visit a Local Aquarium

- Plan to take your group to a local aquarium to visit some under the sea creatures you've talked about during Mission: DEEP SEA. This can be run as a family event for parents and their kids to go as a family or as a trip led by VBS volunteers.
- Check local aquarium websites for group pricing.
- Collect release forms from parents of the kids attending this trip.
- Prep and pack lunch for kids.

### EVENT | Movie Day

- Plan a movie day with your kids. You can prepare a double feature, and don't forget the popcorn and other yummy snacks! This is a great alternative to prepare anyway, in case of rain. Be sure to preview the movie selection(s) before your event, and review your church CVLI license, too. Check out some of the following sea-themed movies:
  - The Little Mermaid (G)
  - Finding Nemo (G)
  - Disney Nature: Oceans (G)
  - Finding Dory (PG)

- A Turtle's Tail (PG)
- Shark Tale (PG)
- Dolphin Tale (PG)
- Flipper (PG)

#### **EVENT | Recreational Water Play**

- Plan to take your group to a water park, local swimming pool, or the beach. This can be run as a family event for parents and their kids to go as a family or as a trip led by VBS volunteers. Check websites for group pricing or renting the entire location out, if needed. Collect release forms from parents of the kids attending this trip. And don't forget to prep and pack snacks or lunch for the kids, or ask that parents supply lunch money.

Here are some stations you can run halfway through your VBS program that allows for kids to run and play a little more freely, and gives your volunteers a bit of a break, too! You can set up the same stations every day or change them up for each session. Let kids float around between stations freely, but designate leaders to supervise.